“Never Forgotten”

By, Patricia C McKissack

**Description:**

This unit will be taught in conjunction with the History unit on slavery or Imperialism.

**Focus:**

African Myths and Folktales

**Objectives: The students will**…

1. Demonstrate comprehension of print material by responding to questions.
2. Use context clues to define word meanings.
3. Analyze interaction between characters in literary text.
4. Analyze use of genre to express theme or topic.
5. Analyze the author’s point of view in literary text.
6. Write responses to literature that extend beyond basic comprehension and facts.

**Procedures:**

1. Introduce story by having students free-write a respond to the following statement:

*“Loved ones are never forgotten when we continue to tell their stories.”*

1. Class discussion on responses to free-write.
2. Notes and direct instruction on purpose of folktales and legends as well as perspective, perception and point of view.
3. Read story and answer questions from text.
4. Complete Character Chart on main characters Dinga and Musafa.
   1. How is Dinga different from other members of the village?
   2. How do other members of the village feel about Dinga?
   3. How is Musafa similar and different to his father Dinga?
5. Discuss conflict of story and fill out Conflict Diagram.
6. Define words using context clues as we find them in the story.
7. Students will analyze and respond to various quotes from the story.
   1. *“Learn by reaching back with one hand, while stretching forward with the other.”*
   2. *“The drumbeat has changed, we must change our dance. Be stubborn, refuse to die, live.”*
   3. *“In my mind I have always been free. As free as wind.”*
   4. *“Family endures forever”*
8. Conclude story with discussion: “What lessons can we take from the story in order to live our lives today?”

**Assessment:**

1. Various writing assignments.
2. Comprehension questions
3. Verbal discussions and class discussions.
4. Daily exit tickets
5. Formal quiz and test throughout unit